

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 CA-01 L-03 H-01 HA-05 SY-05
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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2961

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ASEC, CASC, UR
SUBJECT: INCIDENT INVOLVING AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN

1. AT APPROXIMATELY 1900, MR. F. JAY CRAWFORD, INTER-NATIONAL HARVESTER REPRESENTATIVE AND MS. VIRGINIA OLBRISH, EMBASSY SECRETARY, WERE ENROUTE TO A PARTY WHEN CRAWFORD'S VEHICLE WAS STOPPED BY TWO UNIFORMED MILITIA OFFICERS AT TARAS SHEVCHENKO NABEREZHNYAYA AND BORODINSKAYA 2 NEAR THE KIEV RAILROAD STATION. CRAWFORD PRODUCED HIS DRIVER'S LICENSE AND VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND WITH NO FURTHER EXPLANATION FROM THE OFFICERS WAS FORCIBLY REMOVED FROM THE VEHICLE. CRAWFORD'S BRIEF-CASE WAS ALSO TAKEN FROM THE VEHICLE'S REAR SEAT. FOUR OR FIVE OTHER UNIDENTIFIED CIVILIANS WERE AT THE SCENE AND FORCED OLBRISH TO REMAIN IN THE VEHICLE. OLBRISH SUFFERED A MINOR SCRAPE ON HER LEFT HAND AND A BUMP ON HER RIGHT SHIN. OLBRISH DID NOT OBSERVE HOW CRAWFORD WAS TAKEN FROM THE SCENE BECAUSE SHE WAS BEING ROUGHLY PUSHED DOWN ONTO THE FRONT SEAT OF THE VEHICLE. CRAWFORD AND OLBRISH WERE IN CRAWFORD'S VEHICLE, A VOLVO STATION WAGON WITH BUSINESS REGISTRATION. OLBRISH RETURNED TO THE EMBASSY AT 1930.

2. CRAWFORD IS THE ONLY INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER REPRESENTATIVE
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SENTATIVE IN MOSCOW.

3. EMBASSY HAS CONTACTED THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DUTY OFFICER AND LOCAL MILITIA STATION, BOTH OF WHOM CLAIMED IGNORANCE OF THE MATTER BUT INDICATED THEY WOULD LOOK INTO IT. CRAWFORD'S PASSPORT, SOVIET VISA AND AUTOMOBILE DOCUMENTS ARE IN EMBASSY POSSESSION.

WE WILL KEEP YOU ADVISED. TOON

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 12 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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